

GOD'S PROMISE

Joel 2:23, 28
Zech. 10:1
Psa. 104:16a
John 14:16
John 15:26
John 16:13
John 7:38
Luke 24:49
Acts 1:8
Acts 2:4
Acts 8:17
Acts 10:44-46
Acts 19:6
James 5:7
Ezek. 47:1
Zech. 14:8
Rev. 22:1

GOD'S COMMAND

Luke 24:49
Eph. 5:18



The Church of God Evangel

CLEVELAND, TENN.

Notices

Attention, Evangelists and Exhorters

As previously requested, we ask that all evangelists (male and female) send their 1945 license to the General Secretary with your next reports. Kindly give on same your address, so they will be sent to the right state overseer, whose duty it is to sign your 1946 license and mail to you.

Exhorters should send their papers to their respective state overseers.

Please give this your prompt attention, as the license which you now hold expires December 31, 1945.

John C. Jernigan,
General Overseer.

Change of Address of Ministers and Workers

M. L. Lowe—Old: Box 544, Big timber, Mont. New: Box 295, Beulah, N. Dak.

Chas. H. Shaw—Old: Box 284, Ruskin, Fla. New: Box 556, Clanton, Ala.

The Church of God on the Air

Rev. L. O. Peck, pastor of Valdosta, Ga., Church of God, announces a new radio program—the Morning Bible Class—over radio station WGOV, 1450 Kc., Monday through Friday at 9:30 a. m. This program is carried on in addition to their regular Radio Evangelistic Hour, which is carried over the South Georgia network every Sunday from 3:00-4:00 p. m.

In the Service of the Lord

TALLADEGA, Ala.—Dear Friends, greetings to you in Jesus' name. For some time I have been wanting to write this testimony to the Evangel that I might get acquainted with the Church of God through the Evangel.

I was saved from sin July 17, 1939, was sanctified some months later. The middle of January, 1945, I was added to the great Church of God, glory to God, and last night, the 18th of November, 1945, I was baptized with heaven's sweet Holy Ghost. Alleluia!

I was formerly the pastor of two Baptist churches. Two years ago I received the vision of the Church of God but waited until this year to come into the Church of God. Brother Howard D. Statum was in a revival

at the Church of God in Talladega, Ala. I attended the meeting and saw that I could not stay out of the Church any longer, so, dear friend, if you read this and you are halted between two opinions, as to whether or not the Church of God is right, pray to God, He will give you the vision of the Church of God.

I am in the service of the Lord to go anywhere, to serve Him. I am ready, saints of God, to help you wherever you may be. May God bless everyone who reads this.—Rev. J. C. Fuller, 515 Isebelle Circle, Talladega, Ala.

P. S.—My wife received the Holy Ghost during Brother Statum's revival last January. Praise God!

DEATHS

JORDAN

Brother John J. Jordan went to be with Jesus November 12, 1945; age fifty-two years. He was a charter member of the Church of God at Patten, Ga. He left this world shouting and talking in tongues.—His pastor, J. L. Harrison.

REQUESTS FOR PRAYER

PRAY FOR:

The healing of my body.—Mrs. W. R. Fillers, Box 383, Greeneville, Tenn.

The healing of my daughter, she is suffering with cancer.—Rachael Clowder, Princeton, W. Va.

The healing of my body and eyes.—A sister in Christ, Danville, Va.

The healing of my body.—Mrs. Lillie Shipley, 1319 Broad St., Bristol, Tenn.

God to safely take my husband through an operation.—Mrs. J. Biskner, Flint, Mich.

Sister W. I. Beard, who is in a very serious condition in the hospital.—Mrs. B. S. Scrivner, Shaw, Miss.

The healing of my husband, he is bedfast. He is trusting in the Lord; also remember me.—Mrs. Junior Touchstone, 6216 California Ave., Nashville, Tenn.

The safety of my daughter, she started for home and never did arrive. She was a Christian girl; my unsaved mother.—Mae Privett.

The healing of Brother and Sister John Smith, Picayune, Miss., Sister Smith is bedfast with stomach and heart trouble, Brother Smith has almost lost his eyesight. Encouragement appreciated.—Mrs. Ernest Kennedy, Picayune, Miss.

Mrs. M. J. Parker, who has cancer; my husband, he has stomach trouble.—Mrs. Lena Pleak, Rt. 1, Foxworth, Miss.

The healing and saving of my father, he has a spinal infection.—Ernestine Lloyd, Rt. 1, Box 248, Amelia, Va.

My healing, I have something growing on my eyes. I know He is able to heal.—Mrs. Emily Miller, Box 208, Deerfield Beach, Fla.

The complete healing of my little girl's ears.—Thelma Massengill, Booneville, Miss.

The healing of my little girl, she is very sick with scarlet fever and something wrong with her throat, possibly diphtheria.—P. W. Herman, Jim, W. Va.

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Cleveland, Tennessee

The Nature of God

By
Harold John Ockenga

Text: "Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost," Matt. 28:19.

The second article of the statement of belief of the National Association of Evangelicals says, "We believe that there is one God, eternally existent in three persons: Father, Son and Holy Spirit." This is the common faith of all Christians. The Apostles' Creed declares, "I believe in God the Father Almighty . . . and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord . . . and in the Holy Ghost." The next major universally accepted creed was the creed of Nice and of Constantinople. This says, "I believe in one God, the Father Almighty . . . and in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only begotten Son of God . . . light of light, very God of very God, begotten not made . . . and I believe in the Holy Ghost, the Lord, and giver of life, who proceedeth from the Father, who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified, who spake by the prophets." In the year 451 the Chalcedon Creed reaffirmed Trinitarian Christianity and defined the dual nature of Jesus Christ as both God in His fulness and man in his fulness. I repeat, therefore, that Trinitarian Christianity is the common faith of all Christians.

As the belief in the Scripture as the Word of God designates the evangelical over against the "liberal," the belief in the Trinity distinguishes a Christian from those who forfeit the name Christian. There are monotheists who are not Christians. Christians believe in the unique deity of Jesus Christ and in the person and deity of the Holy Spirit. Therefore the apostolic benediction declares, "The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Ghost, be with you all."

Trinitarian Christianity is the stumbling block of the unbeliever. Natural reason fails when a rational explanation of the Trinity is undertaken. It transcends the natural powers of man, as God transcends men. Were we able to comprehend God with our minds we would cease to worship Him. Hence the folly of attempting to explain the Trinity by reason. The suprarational nature of the Trinity is evidence of the revelation made by God in the Bible, for no man could

have invented the doctrine of the Trinity. No illustration is sufficient to perfectly represent the Trinity, although threeness is stamped upon everything in nature. The natural world is composed of time, space, and matter, no more, no less. Space is composed of breadth, length, and depth, no more, no less. Time is composed of past, present, and future, no more, no less. Matter is composed of substance, attributes, and relationship, no more, no less. He who actually studies nature ought to find there many suggestions of the very nature of God in trinitarian form. Moreover, the Scripture declares that the natural man receives not the things of the Spirit of God, for they are spiritually discerned. At these mysteries of the Trinity, of the presence of evil in the world, of the dual nature of Christ as God and man, the natural mind reels, for it is unable to apprehend them. The next step is rebellion. The natural man wants discovery to be the means of knowledge, whereas Christian truths, especially this truth, are received by means of revelation.

The natural man thus repudiates essential Christian truth which centers around the Trinity. He rebels. He asserts his intellectual independence and he subjects God to the forms of his own mind. He is not willing to receive the revelation.

Yet Trinitarianism is the satisfying portion of the Christian. The relationship, offices and work of the persons of the Trinity constitute the ground of a full-orbed, redemptive theology. He who denies the deity of the Holy Spirit or the deity of the Lord Christ truncates his theology and is left with a bare theism that can not satisfy the mind or heart. Revelation is enriched by the distinction between the Father and the Son. The atonement becomes meaningful when there is more than one person in the Trinity, so that a satisfaction can be made by one to the other. Regeneration is understandable through the agency of the Holy Spirit, without which it must be a mystery. So also with prayer, the church, inspiration, and other doctrines of the Scripture. A realization of the redemptive work of each person of the Trinity establishes the believer. Security is received from the elective purposes of God, salvation from the

atonung work of Christ and sanctification from the indwelling presence of the Holy Spirit. The Christian faith is the Trinitarian faith.

I. ONE GOD

God must have substance, attributes and relationships and according to the Scripture these are interconnected. Baptism is in one name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. There are three persons, but one name, for they share one nature. Therefore, when we speak of the Trinity we must remember that we believe in one God.

Christianity is a dualism, and therefore may be expressive of matter and of spirit, as distinguished from the materialistic monism on the one hand and the spiritualistic monism on the other. Christianity declares that there is more to the world than matter and there is more to the world than spirit. The world is real and spirit is real. We live in a dualistic universe instead of a monistic universe.

Christianity believes that God is, that He exists. He has being and hence attributes of that being may be known.

Christianity affirms that man may know God, for God breathed into him of the Spirit or the breath of life. By correspondence he may know God's revelation, for an infinite spirit has spoken to a finite spirit.

The attributes of Deity are infinity, eternity and permanence. When we say that God is infinite we mean that there is no limitation upon His being, wisdom, power, holiness, justice, goodness and truth. If God is unlimited or infinite in being, then he is omnipresent. There is no place where God is not at any single time. This does not mean that there are not some manifestations of the presence of God which are clearer than others, but God is everywhere at once. When we speak of God being infinite or without limitation in His wisdom, we refer to His omniscience. There is nothing which God does not know. Thus the Scripture says concerning Christ, "He needed not that any man should testify of man: for he knew what was in man." When we speak of God's infinite power we are talking about omnipotence which means that He could do everything such as create the world, sustain it in orderly processes

(Continued on page 13)

RELIGION AND THE WORLD

BY THE EDITOR

Chaplains Mustered Out

Chaplains remaining on active duty now number 7,584, according to RNS. During the last two months 7,152 have been mustered out. Chaplain Miller announced, as of October 31, that 1,213 chaplains had been awarded 1,595 decorations. Casualties, as of November 6, number 76 killed in action, 67 non-battle fatalities, and 233 wounded in action.

—O—

The Cities of the Nations Fell

When we think of what happened to Hiroshima and Nagasaki, how these cities were literally destroyed, we may have a graphic picture of how the cities of the nations will fall or be destroyed as mentioned in Rev. 16:19, during the great tribulation period. I am not saying that it will be thus, but it does predict the possibility of such.

—O—

Excavations in Palestine

Bible Research reports that, "The Palcor Agency reports that a complete Hebrew city dating back to the fourth century before the Christian era is now being unearthed as a result of excavations conducted at Bety Yerach, which is situated on the southern shores of Lake Kinnereth. The excavations are proceeding under the auspices of the Berl Katzenelson Memorial. Archaeological project, with funds provided by the Histadruth, Palestine Federation of Labor, and with the assistance of the Keren Kayemeth (Jewish National Fund). Large buildings hitherto uncovered are yielding many fine, well-preserved utensils of that epoch."

—O—

Uneasy Lies the Head

We have often heard repeated the saying "Uneasy lies the head of a king." This may be quite true, but with all the veneer and suspicion among nations of today, though we have a Peace Charter and try to formulate peace, one nation with another, the very fact that any little old nation who happens to wish for revenge, or who desires to attack a nation like even the United States; after sufficient preparation with the atomic bomb it remains that not only the head of a king may lie upon a pil-

low with an aching heart, but even the supposedly invincible can but shudder when they are circumstantially forced to think that, according to an admission by all leading scientists, overnight an attack with atomic bombs could easily destroy 40,000,000 of our people and most all of our key industries. The die is cast and the judgments of God are in the earth, and the final conflict cannot now long linger. Soon we will hail the conqueror of the destiny of all mankind, even the Lord of Glory.

—O—

Holy War

Some 80,000 native Javanese Christians are under attack by the Inonesian Nationalists, who alleged that they are waging a "holy war" against the native Christians. These native Christians are converts from Islamic doctrines.

—O—

Original Evangelism

There is much organization today toward the objective of increasing church membership. This is desirable, however, church membership is quite one thing and religious experience is another. What is everywhere needed today is a revival of religion. Those who desire such a revival all look back toward the activities of the early church. I have often heard ministers pray the Lord to send them a Pentecostal revival, which, if the Lord had done, they would have fled from the scene in protest. The various Pentecostal groups, whether the Church of God or others, are often criticized and looked upon as being something spurious. It must be remembered, however, that the Pentecostal revival of the last few decades grew out of the activities of those pious praying saints grouped into various denominations. The Pentecostal groups are the results of their prayers and activities. If we are to have a revival that is worth while, we must again turn our eyes toward the original pattern of the early Church. God turned the world upside down in a few short years. He did it, however, with power; not with cold and dry theological sermons. The gospel was attested in that day as a thing of power and miracles; it is either still that or

it is not the gospel. Take that which enriches and gladdens the life of human beings away, and we have formalism instead of the gospel. It would not be "glad tidings," it would be "sad tidings."

—O—

The Jewish Problems

All Christian people are of great sympathy toward the Jews, who are, in many instances and countries, in pitiful plight. It is quite in keeping with Christian thinking, from a scriptural standpoint, to picture the Jew in Palestine, his God-given grant. Whether the allied political powers feel indebted to the outraged Jew, it is quite clear that they are obligated to the Jew, in that Britain, a powerful ally, has an unfulfilled promise concerning Palestine as a national home for the Jewish race. A persecuted, scattered, and peeled people should be given their rightful place in Palestine for a national sanctuary.

—O—

Prayer at San Francisco

Dan Gilbert has charged that prayer was on the program for the opening of the Peace Conference at San Francisco, but that it was "changed at the last moment at the insistence of the Russian delegation and their allies." The leopard has not changed his spots, though he has changed his political policy.

—O—

European Relief

Estimates on needed relief in Europe go so far as to predict that there will be 13,000,000 deaths this winter because of undernourishment.

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Evangelicals Must Revitalize the ● AMERICAN SUNDAY SCHOOL if Nation Is To Have "New Day"

CLARENCE H. BENSON

Executive Secretary, Evangelical Teacher-Training Association

It was not an accident that in both the two colossal conflicts of the Twentieth Century the English-speaking people were to be triumphant. Great Britain and America are not European or Asiatic, for, unlike other nations of the world, they have been molded by the Bible. When Queen Victoria handed a Bible to one of her nation's leaders with the words, "This is the secret of England's greatness," she stated a fact that is as self-evident as any connected with the history of Great Britain and the United States. The Bible has given the people of these highly favored nations the best government that the world has yet experienced. Democracy magnifies the sovereignty of the individual and expresses itself in the free church, the free school, the free press, and freedom of assembly. But it is the Bible that magnifies the sovereignty of the individual and in a democracy gives men a foretaste of that glorious millennial government when "they shall sit every man under his vine and under his fig tree: and none shall make them afraid."

But while victory has crowned its armed forces, the war has brought some woeful revelations to the English-speaking people. Army chaplains have declared that eighty per cent of the troops are pagans. According to Canon Bernard Iddings Bell,

"The chaplains are seeing the results of declining Sunday Schools. We are now a pagan nation and as a people without knowledge of religion we have the most dangerous kind of morality—a morality based upon expediency."

Chaplain Gerhard Belgum writes in *The National Lutheran*,

"The moral and religious weaklings, the men in our armed forces of no faith, come almost invariably from churches, if any at all, and homes where no concerted effort is made to teach the young. The faithful men who not only continue their religious observances, but draw great strength from their Lord in hours of need, come from churches and homes where

God's will, love and mastery are taught and believed."

Another chaplain is quoted as saying:

"If I ever get back into a parish, I shall teach and teach and teach. Everything that goes on that does not teach, I shall regard as superfluous. I shall not call except to teach, nor pay attention to guilds except to teach, nor go to a vestry meeting except to teach, nor read except to teach."

America is one of the few nations in history that has ventured to maintain an educational system without including religious and moral instruction. It is a situation that has come about through the adoption of a national constitution that guarantees freedom of worship to all creeds and religion. No religious sect under these circumstances can receive a government subsidy and no denominational doctrines be included in public instruction. However, no one must infer that in the establishment of this basic principle the founders of our republic were indifferent to the importance of religion for national security. They closed the public schools on Sunday and released the church from public tax in order that the Sunday School might be recognized and encouraged as the supplementary educational agency to the public schools.

The Sunday School, then, is an indispensable part of the American educational system. It has done a wonderful work in the fractional bit of time allotted to it. The national tragedy is that the vast majority of public school children never attend its sessions. This appalling neglect together with the failure of the home to provide religious instruction is responsible for the advancing wave of juvenile delinquency and the largest contributing factor toward making the United States the most criminal nation in the world.

Dr. Paul Calvin Payne, the General Secretary of the Presbyterian Church, in his address before the General Assembly, declared that while he thoroughly approved of weekday church-

school instruction, it was a colossal mistake to imagine that the Sunday School could not be made more effective. "You can't teach religion like arithmetic," he is quoted as saying. "Volunteer relations of the Sunday School and the home will always be the greatest hope of the church. People have turned to the state because we have been playing around and have not been making the best of opportunities of the Sunday School. Why, if we conducted public schools like Sunday Schools, public schools would become public scandals."

The Sunday School is admirably fitted into the American system of education. It creates no problem with the public schools. It permits instruction from every possible viewpoint. Catholics, Jews and 256 Protestant sects can teach what they want in Sunday School which would never be possible in a public school. Seldom do Sunday School pupils become criminals. According to a nation-wide survey, testimony of juvenile court judges proves that less than one-half of one per cent of juvenile delinquents attend Sunday School. To restore the power and prestige of the Sunday School and make it the recognized national institution for religious instruction, two essentials must be written down as absolutely imperative in this reconstruction period:

1. *Every church must regard the Sunday School as its main enterprise.*

It is far less expensive to operate a Sunday School than a parochial institution, but America will never be made safe for democracy through a school maintained by the pennies of the children. State Senator, B. L. Eddy, of Oregon, in *Christianity and Education*, says:

"The training of the younger in the true faith is the greatest existing challenge to the church. If the church refuses to hear and accept the challenge, its influence will die out of the world. The alternates which the church faces, are "educate or die." One of the first practical steps to be

(Continued on page 11)

B. T. S. Speaks . . .

MY AIM IN EDUCATION

I have finished eight years of grammar school, four years of high school, and now I am beginning my first year in college. I ask myself the question, "Why am I trying to get an education?" If I have no purpose in mind, I am like a man starting out to sea in a boat who has no particular place in mind to go. It is a good policy to always have a definite aim when undertaking any task. Education is no exception.

In attempting to analyze my purposes in getting an education, I am confronted with the task of condensing many general aims into one concise aim. I am not interested in the acquisition of a storehouse of facts about events and places unless that acquisition can have a practical value. Anything, however, that will make my life richer and more abundant deserves my consideration. My aim is not to receive a certain degree, or degrees. My aim is not to get a certain grade in any subject. My aim in education is to learn all I can about everything that is practical and conducive to my happiness and the happiness of others. If an individual learns all he can, he is exercising all of his mental powers to the fullest extent. Too many are satisfied with learning just enough to get by. Our Creator has given us thousands of brain cells to be used. God is satisfied with nothing less than man's best. If the knowledge of a certain subject or event can make my life a better life, I want that knowledge.

Everybody wants to be happy, but everybody is not willing to pay the price for happiness. A man can not be truly happy and be in sin. A Christian can not be happy and be non-progressive. Christ Himself was progressive. The Bible tells us He grew in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and man. A happy man can not be lazy; he must be a worker. God forbid that my aim in education should be to learn merely for my own happiness. I know such an aim would be contrary to the teachings of Christ. I want to share my life with others. I want to see people make spiritual, mental, moral, and material progress. I do not want my education to terminate when I finish formal schooling. I expect to learn something every day the rest of my life. An education that

ceases after schooling is a tragedy to be avoided by all students.

To set up an aim and to fulfill that aim are two different things. How am I going to do what I plan to do? First, I shall rely upon God. Second, I shall go to school as much as I can. Third, I shall read and study. Fourth, I shall observe. Fifth, I shall try to put into practice what I learn. If I observe these few simple rules, I feel that I can accomplish my aim in education.—Robert Humbertson.

WHY I CAME TO B. T. S.

I had often dreamed of going to a school that had a spiritual atmosphere and Christian friends with whom I could associate daily.

It has always been my desire to educate and better myself, so that I can be a greater blessing to lost humanity. I am in B. T. S. now to prepare myself for the future and for the best of what the future holds. I want to be able to confront the hardships and trials that are facing the Christian people.

Evolutionists, atheists, and infidels are getting more numerous, and in order to prove to them the right way, I am going to have to be more intellectual and have more knowledge of God's Word.—Helen Hughes.

WHY I CAME TO BIBLE SCHOOL

A desire for a broad, full, and complete life has been with me since I was a very small child. Before time came for me to enter school for my first educational training, I tried to satisfy this desire by getting my older brother's and sister's schoolbooks pertaining I was studying.

Years passed swiftly by and I graduated from high school with a burning desire for higher education. This was not to be granted, for in my senior year Dad informed me there would be no opportunities for more schooling.

I tried to settle down to the daily routine farm life and in so doing began to ponder my problem. After many hours of reasoning with myself about the matter, I came to the conclusion that a broad, rich, and complete life was only gained with Christ at one's side. It was then I accepted Him as my personal Savior and daily companion. Also, I gave my talents to

Him for His service. Immediately He opened the way for me to attend school so that I might develop myself intellectually and spiritually.—Dorothy Hillman.

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REVIVALS

MOBILE, Ala.—I have not been privileged to be in a revival like the one just closed at Prichard, since God revealed the Church to me through the Holy Ghost (Acts 20:28; 1 Tim. 3:15). I have come into the most precious faith of my life and it was under the good teachings of Brother Lemmie Agee. God bless and prosper him always. I lost count of those saved and filled, but I do know that twelve or thirteen were added to the church in Prichard. Many messages were preached in the Holy Ghost, some being interpreted by our evangelist. I would not exchange my little place in the greatest movement this side of heaven for anything in this world. We truly appreciate our district overseer and his wife, Brother and Sister Spence. He has caught the vision of the needs of this district and is on the go almost day and night. Watch for greater news from this district. We are looking forward to the greatest year we have ever had.—Sister V. M. Dayenport, 1907 Old Government St.

LEPANTO, Ark.—We have just closed a good revival at Lepanto, Ark. The Lord blessed in each service. The altar was full almost every night. There were twenty-four saved and seven filled with the Holy Ghost. We also took seven into the church and baptized seven in water.

God is blessing the work and we are very happy to be here with the good people. Pray for us as we labor together for God.—H. T. Dawson, pastor.

JEFFERSON CITY, Tenn.—Greetings, Evangel Readers. I praise the Lord for victory over Satan. We have just closed an old-time, Holy Ghost, God-sent revival like we used to have twenty-five to thirty years ago. God's presence would come down and fill the house. Sinners would come to the altar from all over the house with tears running down their faces and weep and pray and beg God for mercy till God would save their souls. Others were being sanctified by the blood while some were being wonderfully baptized with the Holy Ghost. The altar was filled night after night. There would be sometimes as high as thirty-two in the altar. I have not experienced such a revival as this for

a long time. Twenty-three testified to being saved, seventeen to being sanctified, five to being filled with the Holy Ghost, eight were baptized in water, and eleven added to the church. Sister Bessie Jones did the preaching except the last week. Every message she brought was wonderful, held the folks spellbound, backed up by the mighty power of God, and brought conviction to the hearts of the people and caused them to fall in the altar and seek the Lord. Sister Jones is a wonderful preacher.

Brother J. S. Walker preached for us the last week. He did some wonderfully good preaching. He is a good man of God and we appreciate him. We covet your prayers that God will bless our work at Jefferson City.—Baxter Bryant, Box 583.

KINGSPORT, Tenn.—We praise the Lord for the revival just closed. We thank Him for His many blessings; are thankful that our God is still blessing and saving lost men and women. We praise Him for those precious souls who prayed through and got old-time salvation in the meeting in the old-time way. The Holy Ghost and fire came down in our presence and gave out messages and the altar would fill with seekers. There were twenty-two saved, six filled with the Holy Ghost, and two added to the church. Brother Barney Trent was the evangelist; he was a blessing to our church.

We praise God for our good pastor, Rev. W. C. King, and his good wife. I am still feasting on the good message Brother King brought Sunday morning on the "Baptism of the Holy Ghost." Brother King's message was so soul-stirring until it just raised the saints off their seats. Thank God, there are a few preachers who are not afraid to preach the word and old-time holiness. We are expecting God to do great things for us this year. Pray for us.—C. L. Jessie.

VERSAILLES, Ky.—We had the greatest revival that has ever come to the Church of God at Versailles. W. L. Bloomfield, our new pastor, was in charge. We surely thank the Lord for sending him to us. Thirteen were saved, eight sanctified, five filled with the Holy Ghost, seven baptized in

water, five added to the church, a woman healed of T. B., and the saints greatly revived. There are many new people coming out to hear the truth. We surely love our new pastor and family.—Anna Barnes, clerk, Rt 5.

SALISBURY, N. C.—We are grateful to God for the way He is blessing our church. We just closed a revival by Sister Margaret Jacobs and her co-worker, Sister Annie Sullivan. We gained six members.

We are proud of our new pastor, Brother C. C. Helms and his family. His heart is really in the work and we feel he is just the pastor we need.

There is a steady increase in the Sunday School, and we are expecting great accomplishments this year. Pray that God will continue to prosper us.—Miss Hope Goodman, 1442 N. Church St.

ELBERTON, Ga.—Elberton has had a revival in which many souls were blessed. There were eleven saved, eleven sanctified, eleven filled with the Holy Ghost, eleven added to the Church, and nine baptized in water. Sister Ann Brown, of Atlanta, Ga., did the preaching, which was good. Conviction fell every night and someone received a definite blessing.

Not only do we thank the Lord for her faithful service while here for two weeks, but the revival spirit is still on. In our regular Sunday night service the power fell and there were three saved, three sanctified, and one baptized with the Holy Ghost. A young lady fell under the power and remained until the service closed. She was carried home and remained that way until two-thirty the next morning. Thank God for this blessed revival. Pray that this spirit will continue.—C. J. Reed, pastor.

HELP WANTED

Recently we ran an announcement that we needed help in the Mission Department here in connection with our Spanish correspondence and literature. So far we have not obtained the necessary help. We would like to correspond with someone interested in this type of work who speaks Spanish, or at least has a good background for the Spanish language and is interested in studying it, provided they have had secretarial training.—M. P. Cross, Executive Mission Secretary, Foreign Missions Department, Church of God, Cleveland, Tennessee.

Atomic Energy An Exploding Universe

By EDWIN C. SWANSON

With the tremendous atomic bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, the world was set ablaze with scientific adventure into new realms of thought. Man had broken into another pioneering dreamland, and speculation was high. From those who witnessed the bombing, however, were words like these: "A lightninglike flash covered the sky, all around I found dead and wounded . . . bloated . . . burned with a huge blister . . . all green vegetation perished." Surely, nothing like it had ever happened before. Atomic energy, the basic force of the universe had been turned loose in destruction like a huge Frankenstein to terrorize those who stood in its pathway. The theory of relativity propounded by Einstein in 1905 gave way to fact when matter itself was turned into radiant, yet destructive, energy.

How significant, then, are the words recorded in 2 Peter 3:10: "The day of the Lord will come like a thief, when the heavens will vanish with crackling roar, the stars will be set ablaze and melt, the earth and all its works will disappear." (Moffatt.) Man has concentrated enough energy to partially wipe off the map two objects of military interest. God's Word states specifically His ability to do the humanly impossible by sweeping away this present mutable system and establishing a new one.

MORE OF REVERENCE

It was Dr. Millikan, of the Norman Bridge Institute, who said recently, "About thirty-five years ago, there came forth into print that there was enough atomic energy in a cup full of sea water to drive the biggest ship across the Atlantic. They might have told a much bigger story than that: namely, that if it were possible to make the hydrogen in all the seas combine at once into helium or, indeed, into any of the common elements, then we would probably explode the whole earth and transform it into a nebula with the 'packing-fraction energy' set free." Truly, we are living in exacting days when finite man should bow in humility to an infinite God whose wisdom in laying the foundations of the universe is

awe inspiring. We are reminded again of Jeremiah 10:12, "He hath made the earth by his power, he hath established the world by his wisdom, and hath stretched out the heavens by his discretion," and of Isaiah 40:12, "Who hath measured the waters in the hollow of his hand, and meted out heaven with the span, and comprehended the dust of the earth in a measure, and weighed the mountains in scales, and hills in a balance?" Who? The answer must be God.

Thus, with the discovery of the potency of atomic energy, we are reminded that what man has discovered has always been, that man is only thinking God's thoughts after Him, that "the secret things belong unto the Lord our God: but those things which are revealed belong unto us and to our children forever, that we may do all the words of this law."

LAW OF THE INVISIBLE

Verily, we are reminded of the end of the age and the coming again of the God of the universe, when sin and all that is evil will be forever wiped away by the exceeding brightness of His presence, when all the eternal basic forces of the cosmos will be used for the extension of righteousness as the waters that cover the sea. Truly, we are reminded of how transient are the material things and how eternal the invisible things. How ultimately real the unseen is, and how frail and changeable the visible. With certainty, Henry Drummond was right when he said, "Law in the visible is the invisible in the visible," and the "invisible was the scaffolding upon which God builds the visible."

Let us build upon this certainty that the corruptible must vanish in favor of the incorruptible. Let us embark with Peter and the rest in this philosophy, that God's atomic energy will some day break in upon a mutable universe which is to be swept away in order that another shall replace it, "wherein dwelleth righteousness." Mount Vernon, Washington.

BAPTISM

CLARENCE JOHNSON

The subject of baptism is of vital interest to all nations. However, views and interpretations differ, especially in regard to the meaning of baptism. In the very nature of the case a statement on this subject must be brief. The object is to state some of the main points, doctrines and views, without any attempt at an interpretation.

THE BAPTISM OF JOHN

Some regard John's baptism as Jewish rather than Christian. At that time baptisms or ceremonial purifications were common. There were frequent ceremonial washings signifying purification. This was true especially of priestly purification. Exodus 29:4; 40:12; Leviticus 8:6; Mark 7:2-4.

John preached the baptism of repentance for the remission of sins. Mark 1:4. Those who were obedient to John's call to prepare the way of the Lord, Mark 1:3, and repented, confessing their sins, were all baptized of him, Mark 1:15.

THE BAPTISM OF JESUS

Jesus was baptized of John, Mark 1:9; not unto repentance nor for remission of sins, because He had no

sins to repent of nor to confess. His baptism, as declared by Himself, was to fulfill all righteousness, Matt. 3:15. The voice said, "This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased." Matt. 3:17. God set the heavenly approval seal upon His act of righteousness. It was an appropriate and solemn induction into His public ministry. Amen.

CHRISTIAN BAPTISM

Whether Christ baptized with His own hands those who believed in Him, or delegated this work to His disciples, is not definitely known. The passages John 3:32 and John 4:1 seem to support that He did baptize, while John 4:2 states that Jesus Himself baptized not. The difference between the baptism of John and Jesus is recorded in Matt. 3:11; Mark 1:8; Luke 3:16; John 1:33; Acts 1:5. Jesus referred to the baptism of John in Mark 11:30 and John referred to the baptism of Jesus in John 1:32, 33. It was just prior to His ascension that our Lord ordained baptism in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost as a permanent institution among all

(Continued on page 15)

WORLD-WIDE BIBLE READING

THANKSGIVING TO CHRISTMAS

DECEMBER 12, PHILIPPIANS 3

A Selection

"But what things were gain to me, those I counted loss for Christ.

Yea doubtless, and I count all things but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord: for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and do count them but dung, that I may win Christ.

And be found in him, not having mine own righteousness, which is of the law, but that which is through the faith of Christ, the righteousness which is of God by faith:

That I may know him, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformatable unto his death;

If by any means I might attain unto the resurrection of the dead.

Not as though I had already attained, either were already perfect: but I follow after, if that I may apprehend that for which also I am apprehended of Christ Jesus.

Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before,

I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus."

DECEMBER 13, 1 CORINTHIANS 3

A Selection

"Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you?

If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy; for the temple of God is holy, which temple ye are.

Let no man deceive himself. If any man among you seemeth to be wise in this world, let him become a fool, that he may be wise.

For the wisdom of this world is foolishness with God: for it is written, He taketh the wise in their own craftiness.

And again, The Lord knoweth the thoughts of the wise, that they are vain.

Therefore let no man glory in men: for all things are yours;

Whether Paul, or Apollos, or Cephas, or the world, or life, or death, or things to come; all are yours;

And ye are Christ's, and Christ is God's."

DECEMBER 8, 1945

DECEMBER 14, PHILIPPIANS 4

A Selection

"Rejoice in the Lord always: and again I say, Rejoice. Let your moderation be known unto all men. The Lord is at hand.

Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there by any praise, think on these things."

DECEMBER 15, ST. JOHN 15

A Selection—Jesus is speaking

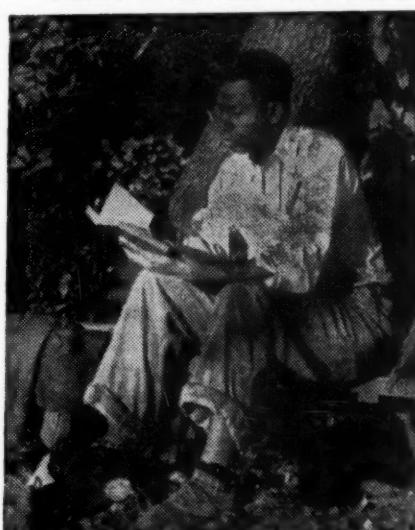
"I am the vine, ye are the branches. He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit; for without me ye can do nothing. If a man abide not in me, he is cast forth as a branch, and is withered; and men gather them, and cast them into the fire, and they are burned.

If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you. Herein is my Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit; so shall ye be my disciples . . .

This is my commandment. That ye love one another, as I have loved you. Greater love hath no man that this, that a man lay down his life for his friends."

DECEMBER 16, PSALM 1

"Blessed is the man that walketh



not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful:

But his delight is in the law of the Lord; and in his law doth he meditate day and night.

And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper.

The ungodly are not so: but are like the chaff which the wind driveth away.

Therefore the ungodly shall not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous.

For the Lord knoweth the way of the righteous but the way of the ungodly shall perish.

DECEMBER 17, PSALM 27

A Selection

"The Lord is my light and my salvation, whom shall I fear? the Lord is the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

When the wicked, even mine enemies and my foes, came upon me to eat my flesh, they stumbled and fell.

Though a host shall encamp against me, my heart shall not fear: though war shall rise against me, in this will I be confident.

One thing have I desired of the Lord, that will I seek after, that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the Lord, and to inquire in his temple."

DECEMBER 18, 1 CORINTHIANS 15

A Selection

"Behold, I shew you a mystery, We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.

For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality. So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory.

O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory? The sting of death is sin; and the strength of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord."

[Page 9]

REQUESTS

(Continued from page 2)

The healing of a neighbor woman of cancer of the stomach and lung.—Claudie Boswell, Rt. 1, Heflin, Ala.

My healing, I am afflicted with head, heart, kidney and nerve trouble.—Mrs. Bessie King, Rt. 4, Waycross, Ga.

The healing of my body.—Mrs. Fred Ellison, Bon Air, Ala.

The healing of my little girl, she has been operated on and is in a serious condition.—Mrs. W. L. Prince, Rt. 1, Columbia, Tenn.

My little boy, who has Hodgkin's disease.—Mrs. Aurelia Gregg, Rt. 1, Fruithurst, Ala.

The healing of my head.—Mrs. Jessie Rhinhart, Lavonia, Ga.

Me to be healed of a heart ailment and a hurting in my chest.—Mrs. Tearley Willer, Lavonia, Ga.

The healing of my body.—Mrs. G. M. Chitwood, Lavonia, Ga.

My father to be healed of cancer of the mouth.—Eva Luten, Marion, S. C.

The healing of Mrs. Sylvania Godbee, she has pellagra and her eyes are afflicted; Sister McClellan to be healed, she has a nose disease; me to be healed of an afflicted nose, I feel sure it is a cancer.—Fannie Duncan, Sardis, Ga.

My son, thirty-two years old, who was in the Aleutian Islands and the Pacific theater of war. His nerves and stomach are bad and he has a broken jaw which still gives him much trouble, also he has a plate in one leg. He is unsaved and needs the Lord for both soul and body.—Mrs. P. C. Brown, Salem, W. Va.

God to undertake for my daughters in a special way.—Mrs. E. C. Adcock, Rt. 2, Adairsville, Ga.

Healing of my thirteen-year-old niece, Betty Jean Thornton, she has paralysis.—Mrs. Rosa Lee Griffin, Patterson, Ga.

Sister Eunice Braswell; me to be healed, I have weak eyes.—Mrs. Belle Herring, Donalsonville, Ga.

The healing of my husband, he has head, chest, and stomach trouble; me.—Mrs. Louise Holmes, 1 Avenue C, Carrollton, Ga.

My healing, I have T. B., stomach trouble, and heart trouble.—Mrs. Bertie Smith, Calhoun, Ga.

The healing of my body, I am af-

flicted with rheumatism; my sister to be healed.—Miss Susie Carland, Skyland, N. C.

The healing of my wife; my body, I am afflicted with heart trouble.—Robert J. Haywood, Bon Air, Ala.

The healing of my girl friend and me of T. B. We will appreciate encouragement from anyone who has been healed of God.—Mrs. Jennie Bellflower, County Home, R. F. D., Williamson, N. C.

My eyes to be healed.—Mrs. Waldrop, Highland Ave., Greeneville, Tenn.

The healing of a neighbor's daughter, she is deaf; an elderly lady to be healed, she has had three operations in nine months.—Mrs. William Menzer, 126 E. Elm St., Oneida, N. Y.

The healing of Sister Mollie L. Wilson, 713 N. Main St., Weatherford, Tex., of rheumatism. She also needs encouragement in her lonely life.

The saving and healing of my fourteen-year-old nephew, Bobbie Bahon, St. George, W. Va., he is very sick. He has been sick since August and has been operated on four times and now the doctors have given him up. They need encouragement so much.—Mrs. Oney Bahon, St. George, W. Va.

My daughter and her husband; the healing of my three children; the healing of my body.—Mrs. Kess Harris, Wolf Mountain, N. C.

Refreshed in the Lord

We have just closed a revival that started September 18 with Brother Ottis Lunsford in charge, in which two were saved and one reclaimed. Brother Lunsford is a good preacher and a good musician.

On October 7 our church anniversary celebration began, with Brother Reid and other good ministers present, our state evangelist and beloved state overseer topping it off. We had our home-coming sermon Sunday, October 14, at eleven o'clock. Our state Sunday School and Y.P.E. superintendent, Brother Meriel Akins, was with us for the 3:00 p. m. service. In the afternoon we also had the Revelation Spiritual Singers, a colored quartet, of Cincinnati, Ohio. We had a glorious time in the Lord. A revival followed the homecoming, with Brother James Combs and wife, of Butlerville, Indiana, a great evangelist, musician, and singer, in charge. It ran two weeks with three saved and one reclaimed.

We have been built up and refreshed by these six weeks' services. Luther Butler, Route 1, Metamora, Ind.

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AMERICAN SUNDAY SCHOOL

(Continued from page 5)

taken is to convince every Protestant church that it should raise for Christian education from fifty to one hundred per cent of what it raises for its minister."

The present enrollment of the average Sunday School is only one-third of its constituency. If every church is to serve the nation to its full capacity, it must triple its enrollment. When a church finds its constituency limited in the neighborhood, it can perform a patriotic service to its country as well as a missionary service for its denomination by organizing and supporting a Sunday School in some other community. Churches which have their members engaged in such a missionary enterprise are more easily and more directly fulfilling the "go...teach" of the great commission than those whose representatives are all serving on foreign soil. You can support a missionary in a distant land, but you can be a missionary in the Sunday School.

2. *Every church should enlist and train a larger number of its members for Sunday School work.*

Today not more than eight per cent of Protestant church members are teaching in the Sunday School and many of them are very poorly equipped for their work. It takes so much less time and expense to prepare a teacher for the Sunday School that one would naturally suppose the ranks of the Sunday School and not the public school would contain the larger number of qualified instructors. As Senator Eddy says:

"Why should not consecrated young people who do not enlist for full-time Christian service be led to prepare themselves for Sunday School teaching which can be carried on while following secular education? Perhaps one reason why this challenge has not appealed to more young Christians is that Sunday School work is such a hit-and-miss affair which the average congregation does not take seriously. In many churches the whole attitude toward the Sunday School needs changing.

Someone has well said that the supreme work of the church is evangelism, the winning of lost men and women to God. But there is something more important than evangelism. The supreme business of the church is the provision and preparation of evangelists and the supreme evangelistic field of the church is the Sunday

School. Could we not correctly argue, then, that the all-important work of the church is training Sunday School teachers to be evangelists?

Well, the Bible Institute movement had its inception in the mind of that great Sunday School man, D. L. Moody, for this purpose. Since 1931, the Evangelical Teacher-Training Association has existed not only to prepare every teacher to be an evangelist, but to provide institutional instruction that would train Sunday School leaders as adequately as public school teachers and make them as efficient lay workers as the graduates of theological seminaries. One hundred twenty-four co-operating institutions are now turning out a constant stream of trained men and women who, in all probability, will be the greatest factor in determining whether religion or rowdyism is to rule America. Of this splendid movement for conservative leadership, Dr. George Skoda says:

"The Evangelical Teacher-Training

Association has admirably fulfilled its purpose. Not being denominational in character, but interdenominational, it can co-operate and carry on with all the members of the denominations who desire a conservative teacher-training course. In fact, the wonderful demonstration of Christian unity in associational activities has been one of the reasons for its remarkable success and it bids to assume a place of ever-increasing importance in the field of religious education."

If orthodox Protestants can unite so successfully in teacher-training, why not in the revitalizing of the Sunday School? Once there is unity and recognized leadership among conservative Protestants, the way will be prepared for a united front of all religious bodies for making the Sunday School the great national enterprise of all ecclesiastical forces for reaching, teaching, and saving the millions of spiritually illiterate in America.

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TESTIMONIES

Healed of Sore Throat

EUSTIS, Fla.—About April of this year diphtheria and strep throat broke out among the school children. They began to rush them to the hospital. In a few days there were fifteen reported in the hospital. They stopped school for a week.

Our little girl got up one morning with her throat swollen and sore. In a little while she began to chill and went back to bed. By ten o'clock she was as hot a child as I ever put my hand on, and yellow blisters were in her throat. She just seemed to be lifeless, didn't call for water or anything. We didn't call a doctor but my daughter and I began to implore the heavens for help. We would pray and her fever would go down and then she would get worse, but we kept praying on all that day and night. The next morning the dear Lord spoke to my heart and said, Anoint her with oil. I said to my daughter, "Let's anoint her with oil and pray," and I got my Bible and read a portion of the fifth chapter of James, beginning at verse thirteen, and I told her Jesus would heal her. I anointed her in the name of Jesus and we laid our hands on her and called on God for help, and, praise His name, He came on the scene and she was almost instantly healed, got right up, but she was weak and went back to bed for a while. She had laid with her eyes closed all the time, but the healing power overshadowed her and Jesus touched her with His loving hand and her little eyes brightened up with big tears in them and she smiled. The very glory of God was shining in her face. Praise His dear name. He did it all; nothing we did but obeyed the Lord. Yes, Jesus still heals. Praise His name.—Dora Matthew, Box 292.

FT. MYERS, Fla.—The Lord has laid it on my heart to write a testimony of my healing which He did for me last spring. Just after a communion and feet washing service we had a healing service. The power was so strong and the pastor's wife said to me, "You had better have them pray for you," so I fell down at the altar and as they started to pray for me there was a feeling which came over me like my life was leaving me. They

prayed and the power came down so strong the devil was rebuked and the Lord wonderfully healed me of some kind of hurting in my chest through to my back for about six years and it was getting worse. I would take medicine for relief as I didn't trust God completely.

I just can't praise the Lord enough for this healing.—Mrs. Daisy Sitler, 1316 Woodside Ave.

DOLLAR BAY, Mich.—I am glad to tell of how wonderfully the Lord healed our little girl. She had a severe earache and a gathering in her head which finally broke and her ear ran and it became very foul and continued to run and discharge for about a month. We prayed for her and when we promised God to send in our testimony He wonderfully healed her. The second day it was all clear and she was back in school in a couple of days.

We praise the Lord for His great love and mercy to us. His power is still the same.—Brother and Sister A. O. Anderson.

ALTON PARK, Tenn.—I praise the Lord for His healing power. I must obey the Lord and tell what He has done for me. Just as I started to write this I felt waves of glory sweeping over my soul.

When my little girl was about eight month old she couldn't sit up. We knew there was something wrong with her. As she grew older we took her to specialists. We had X-rays taken. Some doctors didn't know what was wrong with her. One doctor said it was birth injury. Another said her nerves didn't develop like they should. She was very nervous.

She finally got to where she could sit up. As she grew older she still couldn't walk. My husband and I continued to do all we could for her. She stayed in the hospital a week for observation. The doctors said they couldn't do anything for her and they let me take her home. She was three years old at this time. I grew more worried as the time passed.

I called for the people at the Church of God to pray for her. We fasted and prayed for her and kept trusting in God. One night she

wanted to go to church but I told her we couldn't go for I couldn't carry her. She was nearly four years old at this time. She said, "I'll walk, mother." She got down from the bed and started walking across the floor. Oh, praise His holy name! The Lord touched her body that night. I shouted, laughed, and cried. I picked up the Bible. It opened to the third chapter of Acts where the lame man was healed. Today she walks to church but her legs are still a little weak. She is getting stronger all the time. I believe the Lord will completely heal her legs.—Mrs. Trishel Johnson, 380½ Dorris Avenue, Alton Park 10, Tenn.

I Am Still Trusting Him

WHITEHALL, Ark.—I thank and praise the Lord for His goodness to me and for giving me a determination to do His will.

On the morning of June 2 I got up and I thought my arm was asleep. I began to rub and mash and try to awaken the useless hand and to my surprise I had lost the use of it. I started to a doctor, and in getting on the bus I saw a brother, a member of the same church, which is the Church of God. I told him my trouble. He prayed for my hand and told me to trust the Lord for it, so I didn't go to the doctor. I got some medicine from a druggist and I haven't unwrapped it yet, and my hand is well enough to say Jesus healed me. Every night when I would go to bed I would open my Bible to St. Mark 3 and lay my hand on it and, praise God, He healed it. Just read the third chapter of Mark where Jesus healed the withered hand. Praise the Lord. Pray for my strength in the Lord.—Allen Grisom.

Healed of Sugar Diabetes

I praise the Lord for His healing power. I suffered with sugar diabetes for ten months. The doctor said there was no cure for me, but I sent to Brother Miller, of Logan, W. Va., for an anointed cloth. When the cloth arrived it was applied and I was instantly healed. Praise His good name.

I have been a member of the Church of God for twenty years.

Please pray for my son overseas, that God will protect him. Also remember me in your prayers.—Mrs. V. W. Blankenship, Rt. 1, Box 180, Claysburg, Pa.

THE NATURE OF GOD

(Continued from page 3)

and ultimately bring it unto judgment. He can also interfere in the laws of the world if He so desires. We have an infinite God and all three persons of the godhead are infinite.

God is eternal. This is the answer to the question, Who made God? Nobody made God. He always was, is, and will be. He is alpha and omega. With the eternity of God the mind rests in its search for an ultimate. God is that ultimate.

God also is permanent. He is unchangeable. Nothing can be added to or detracted from these attributes of God. God has not grown nor changed His purposes nor been taken by surprise, nor has He relinquished His control of the world. God is the same yesterday, today and forever.

God sustains certain relationships. The primary relationships exist within the godhead itself, such as love, position and activity. The godhead is self-sufficient. There was no necessity for a creation in order for the self-expression of Deity. That is one of the great values of Trinitarian Deity in our thinking. God's relationships are within Himself.

Secondary relationships are without the godhead. In these God is independent, antecedent and supramundane. The world cannot affect God, but God can affect the world. God is independent of the world, but the world is dependent upon God.

The tertiary relationships are involved in the creation of men. This assumes a voluntary self-limitation on the part of God constituting men free moral agents or gods like unto Himself. In John 10:35 Jesus said, "If the Scripture calleth them gods . . ." It was this Scripture that He referred to as not being able to be broken. Consequently it is obvious that God has voluntarily limited Himself in the creation of man. He became involved in this relationship in a more real sense through the incarnation, and hence we believe that a permanent change took place in Deity involving the taking of other beings into the divine family. Thus the Scripture says, "We are heirs of God and joint heirs with Jesus Christ."

II. THREE PERSONS

The second phase of our Trinitarian creed speaks of believing in one God and three persons: "Father, Son and Spirit."

The Father is the ultimate source of all. He is the absolute. He is known

as "God our Father." In the salutations of the epistles He is called, "The God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ" and to Him are ascribed the plan, the decree, the election and the purpose in reference to the world.

This absolute God is unknown unless revealed by the Son. Christ said, "No man knoweth the Son, but the Father; neither knoweth any man the Father, save the Son, and he to whomsoever the Son will reveal him." He also said, "He that hath seen me hath seen the Father . . . the words that I speak unto you I speak not of myself: but the Father that dwelleth in me he doeth the words." Christ made the Father known. He "exegeted" the Father. He taught, did and said only what the Father willed, stating, "I came down from heaven, not to do mine own will, but the will of him that sent me." Jesus Christ taught us in prayer to call God "Our Father." Such a conception would never have been received by man had it not been given to us in the revelation of the Son.

God, therefore, is unapproachable except we approach Him through the reconciliation of the Son. God loved us and gave His only begotten Son for us, but God is holy and just and can not be approached unless it be through His Son. Jesus said, "No man cometh unto the Father but by me." God was in Christ reconciling the world unto Himself, not imputing unto them their trespasses. Therefore, God gives us access to Him through Christ and Christ's death upon the cross. It

is in praying in Christ's name that we are heard, and it is coming to God through Christ that we have access to His throne.

The second person of the Trinity is the Son. The Son is the eternal word, the logos of God, who was God and was with God from eternity. This is the teaching of John 1:2, Prov. 8:22 ff., Col. 1:18-21, Phil. 2:6 ff., etc. The Son is the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth. Of Him the Father says, "This day have I begotten thee." He is subordinate only in position. He is of like nature and He possesses similar attributes. These are the claims that He makes when He tells us that He came to do the works of the Father, that before Abraham was He existed, that He and the Father are one. The church has always taught that Christ is of the same nature as the Father and hence is one in being.

He is the executor of the Trinity in the redemptive plan. For this purpose the incarnation took place, so that the God-Man was true God without sin and error. Yet He was true man in representing the redeemed. He was very God of very God and also the Son of man. For this purpose He performed His miracles demonstrating supernatural power. For this purpose He went to the Cross that He might make an atonement for our sins, so that in Him there is a propitiation through faith in His blood. For this purpose He became the sovereign head of a people whose representative is in glory while they are still upon



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earth. The Lord Jesus Christ fulfilled the redemptive plan of the Father.

The Spirit is the third person of the Trinity. He is variously called The Spirit or The Ghost, but always with the adjective Holy prefixed to it. The Holy Spirit is the gift of God, promised by God and by the Lord Jesus Christ, so that He could say, "I will pray the Father and He will send you another Comforter . . . it is expedient for you that I go away, for if I go not away the Comforter can not come. . . . Tarry ye at Jerusalem until ye be endued with power from on high . . . ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days hence." The great event of Pentecost was the advent of the Holy Spirit in His high office of Comforter. It was the fulfillment of the promise of the Father and the coming of the Holy Ghost was accompanied by the gift of power unto the believers. "We have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear, but the spirit of love, power and of a sound mind."

The Holy Spirit is the present agent of the Trinity in the world. He is God, omnipresent according to Psalm 129, omniscient according to 1 Cor. 2:11, eternal according to Hebrews 7:14, omnipotent according to Genesis 1:2 and Luke 11:20 compared with Matthew 12:28. The Holy Spirit is a person and personality and powers are attributed unto Him. The Holy Spirit speaks. He is grieved. He wills. He has all the attributes of personality and He does God's work in the world today. The work of enlightening the minds of men, of converting men unto Jesus Christ, of sanctifying the believers and of preserving them unto the coming of the Lord. All this is the work of the Holy Spirit.

The Holy Spirit is the source of all power in the Christian life. If we would know the presence of the Triune God in nearness, it must be by the Holy Spirit, for He takes of the things of God and shows them unto us. The Holy Spirit is the secret of all victory. The one grand need of the Church is the Holy Spirit.

III. TRINITARIAN FAITH

This article of the creed says, "We believe in one God, eternally existent in three persons." Do you believe it? "He that cometh to God must believe that he is." Without faith in a trinitarian godhead, we simply forfeit the name Christian.

Therefore we must bow our heads in worship before the mysterious but adorable Trinity. How three persons

have the same being and attributes, how the Father and Son are one, how God was in Christ reconciling the world I know not, but before that revelation I bow in acceptance and in worship. That God loved, gave, suffered, died, redeemed, I know from His revelation in which He hath made known His redemptive deeds and His prophetic words to us. That God may be known by a loving heart where the reason staggers is true and is the experience of us all. St. Paul said, in praying for the Ephesians, "That ye . . . may be able . . . to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge." How can we know that which passeth knowledge? Such language is paradoxical and yet it is the language of experience because we do know in our hearts that which our reason can not comprehend.

The Lord Jesus said, "Believe in God, believe also in me." A bare theism is sterile and valueless. It can not stand alone. It must progress unto revelation. That revelation came in the prophets of old, in the Lord Jesus Christ and in the New Testament prophets and apostles appointed for this purpose. It culminated in Calvary and in Pentecost. There we behold the Trinity in its full work. God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Ghost redeeming the world. A person-

al trust will lead one to accept what the Trinity has done for us and this trust is saving faith.

The blessing of the triune God upon the believing soul is wonderful. It brings election unto salvation. It brings redemption from sin's penalty and power. It brings regeneration and new faith. Repentance, therefore, is toward God. Faith is toward the Lord Jesus Christ. The witness is a relationship toward the Holy Spirit. Salvation is of the triune God and not of any one Person of the Trinity.

We have need of these three works on earth to correspond with the blessed Trinity in heaven. St John said, "There are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one and there are three that bear witness in earth, the Spirit, the water, and the blood: and these three agree in one." Have you exercised repentance toward God, faith in the blood of the Lord Jesus Christ, and do you possess the witness of the Spirit that you are a child of God? All these are necessary to your Christian salvation. Your Christian experience is not complete until the Holy Spirit has done His work in you. Yes, we believe in one God, eternally existent in three Persons, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

—United Evangelical Action.

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Dear readers, I have salvation, am a member of the Fire Baptized Holiness church and I know God can answer prayer. He says in His word, Bear ye one another's burdens. The only comfort anyone can give a broken-hearted mother is as Paul comforted his brethren, 2 Cor. 1:4, "Who comforteth us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort them which are in any trouble, by the comfort wherewith we ourselves are comforted of God."

Christian friends, you may forget my request, but a mother cannot forget her child who is behind iron bars or in serious trouble. Days and days pass by, night hours of rest and sleep for others, while mothers lay weeping for their children in despair. Please take this request to God; I know He is able but He is our only hope. Also pray for my son's salvation, as he is unsaved. Encouragement appreciated. Also, if anyone lives near Lumberton, N. C., I would appreciate it so much if you would go to the jail and pray and talk with him. Call for the McCollon boy, upstairs.—A sister in Christ, Mrs. Fannie McCollon, Rt. 2, St. Pauls, N. C.

BAPTISM

(Continued from page 8)

nations and unto the end of the world. Matt. 28:18-20. When Paul found that certain disciples at Ephesus had been baptized unto John's baptism, he (Paul) explained it as the baptism of repentance and told them that they should believe on Christ Jesus. When they heard this they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. Acts 19:1-5. They were looking back to the law of John's time, which was before the law expired. Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law. Gal. 3:13. Paul said, "Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly that God has made that same Jesus whom you have crucified both Lord and Christ." Acts 2:36; Acts 2:33.

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